

Christmas

A bit about British christmas, tell me about how you spend christmas and then some opinions...

The first night of celebration in England in Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve is on the 24th of December.

We lay out milk and mince pies for Santa Clause (Father Christmas). We also put out carrots for the reindeer.

After putting out food for santa and the reindeers, we put out our stockings to be filled with presents.

We put the stockings over the fireplace because santa enters the house through the chimney.

What do you do in Spain on Christmas Eve?



Christmas Day

In England this is the most important day of celebration.

It is on the 25th December and it is when everyone gives and receives presents.

Normally the children open the presents that santa brings in the morning. Then breakfast. Family gifts are normally given in the afternoon after lunch and after the Queen's Speech.

The Queen's speech is a speech that the Queen makes every year on Christmas Day on the BBC. It is usually very short and she talks about the past year.



Christmas Day Food

Turkey Roast Dinner always with brussel sprouts.



Christmas pudding which is covered in alcohol and lit up.



Christmas Cake is with fruit and alcohol, it is very heavy.



Mince Pies are also made with dried fruit.



What do you normally eat in Spain on Christmas Day?

After Christmas Day we have Boxing Day

Boxing Day is on the 26th December.

Boxing Day is a Bank holiday.

A Bank Holiday is a national day of no work.

Historically it was a day to give presents to the poor but now it is simply a day off work and eating more food.

Is there a similar day in Spain? What do you normally do on December 26?



Opinions from British young people, do you agree?

Yasmeen, 20, Liverpool: Christmas to me means catching up with your family and having a laugh. Last of all opening your presents.

Ruby, 15, London: It's too commercial. There are too many adverts trying to get everyone to spend their money.

James, 13, Crediton: Bringing all your family together, having a laugh, giving presents and eating loads of delicious foods. YUM! YUM!

Tony, 18, Bakewell: The shops start selling Christmas cards in September! That's 3 months before Christmas. Ridiculous!

Claire, 22, Derby: I work for a charity that gives food to homeless people every Christmas. These people have no home or family so we try to make December 25th a happy day for them.

Match the custom to the country...

Custom	Country
1) St. Nicolas brings presents on December 6 th to good children and a bag of sticks for bad children	a. China
2) December 26 th is called Boxing Day and was traditionally a day to give presents to the poor.	b. Spain
3) Tropical flowers are used as Christmas decorations.	c. Great Britain
4) The three Kings arrive on the night of January 5 th to give presents to children. Most towns have a carnival style parade.	d. Germany
5) ON January 6 th a special almond cake with a toy crown inside is eaten.	e. Czech Republic
6) Wooden decorations and candles are put in windows of homes.	f. France
7) The Christian population is between 4-6% and big cities put up Christmas trees.	g. Canada
8) Fir trees grow here and they always send the biggest and most beautiful tree to Boston in the USA.	h. Costa Rica

Questions

- What are your plans this year for christmas?
- Who do you normally spend christmas with?
- Are you looking forward to it?

In England Christmas movies and music are very popular - is it the same in Spain? Do you have a favourite Christmas film or song?

